

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS AND CLIMATE CHANGE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1354

ANSWERED ON:03.03.2015

EVALUATION OF INDUSTRIAL POLLUTION

Gupta Shri Sudheer;Kirtikar Shri Gajanan Chandrakant;Shinde Dr. Shrikant Eknath;Singh Shri Kunwar Haribansh

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of industrial clusters classified as critically polluted areas and severally polluted areas in the country, State/UT-wise;
- (b) whether the Central Pollution Control Board has set up a Panel to develop 'Standard Operating Procedures' for evaluation of the impact of polluted air, water and land/soil on human health, flora and fauna in the 'severely' polluted areas;
- (c) if so, the time by which the committee is likely to submit its report to the Government; and
- (d) the other steps taken/being taken by the Government to check industrial pollution in the country?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) FOR ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS AND CLIMATE CHANGE (SHRI PRAKASH JAVADEKAR)

(a) to (c) The Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) in collaboration with the Indian Institute of Technology (IIT), Delhi had carried out a comprehensive environmental assessment of 88 prominent industrial clusters during 2009-10 based on Comprehensive Environmental Pollution Index (CEPI) criteria. Out of 88 prominent industrial clusters, 43 industrial clusters in 16 States having CEPI score of 70 and above are identified as Critically Polluted Areas (CPAs). Further, 32 industrial clusters with CEPI scores between 60 to 70 are categorized as Severely Polluted Areas (SPAs). The State/UT-wise list of CPAs and SPAs are annexed as Annexure-I & Annexure-II.

The 'Technical Review Committee' in its meeting held on January 22, 2015 discussed the issues related to the 'Epidemiological Studies for Assessment of effect of Pollution (Air, Water & land/soil) on Human Health in Critically & Severally Polluted Areas' and agreed for development of the simplified & uniform 'Standard Operating Procedure'. Accordingly, a 'Working Group' headed by the Director General of Health Services, Ministry of Health & Family Welfare was constituted to develop an easy to understand 'Standard Operating Procedure'. The details of the Working Group is available on the website of CPCB. The report of the Working Group is likely to be finalized by March 31, 2015.

(d) The following steps are taken by the Government to check industrial pollution in the country which inter alia include:

(i) Industrial pollution is regulated under the Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974, the Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1981 and the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986.

(ii) National Environment Policy, 2006 lays down a comprehensive framework for regulation of industrial pollution.

(iii) Industry specific emission and effluent standards have been notified under the Environmental (Protection) Rules, 1986 and amended from time to time.

(iv) The State Pollution Control Boards (SPCBs)/ Pollution Control Committees (PCCSs) issue consent to establish/ consent to operate and authorization to the industries in the States. Also, the SPCBs/ PCCs monitor the compliance of industrial emission/effluent discharges and other operational activities according to the prescribed standards.

(v) Industrial pollution sources have been identified and 17 categories of highly polluting industries are strictly monitored for compliance of the standards. CPCB conducts environmental surveillance of these industries.

(vi) Time targeted action points have been identified under 'Corporate Responsibility for Environment Protection (CREP)', a voluntary scheme for 17 categories of industries including adoption of clean technologies and these action points have been implemented in a phase manner.

(vii) The Government has formulated a Scheme of financial assistance for developing common Treatment Storage Disposal Facilities (TSDF) for management of industrial hazardous wastes and Common Effluent Treatment Plants (CETPs) for treatment of industrial effluents.